

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is believed that all claims now pending, namely 1-13 and 16-40, patentably define the subject invention over the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited at the earliest possible date.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17, particularly extension of time fees.

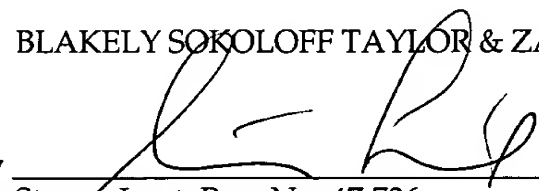
PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Per 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a) and in connection with the Office Action mailed on **Monday, October 20, 2003**, Applicant respectfully petitions the Commissioner for a one (2) month extension of time, extending the period for response to **Saturday, March 20, 2004**. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment to Deposit Account No. 02-2666 in the amount of \$420.00 to cover the petition filing fee for a 37 C.F.R. 1.17(a)(2) large entity. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY SOKOLOFF TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

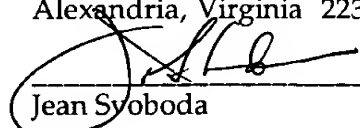
Dated: March 19, 2004

By 
Steven Laut, Reg. No. 47,736

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

12400 Wilshire Boulevard
Seventh Floor
Los Angeles, California 90025
(310) 207-3800

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, Post Office Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on March 19, 2004.


Jean Svoboda